PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of:

GEORGE E. ZAHR

SERIAL NO.: 09/757,457

FILED: JANUARY 9, 2001

CASE NO.: QP5031 US NA

GROUP ART UNIT: 1711

EXAMINER: ANA L. WOODWARD

FOR: POLYAMIDE CHAIN EXTENSION
PROCESS AND FUNCTIONALIZED
POLYAMIDES PRODUCED THEREBY

RECEIVED
SEP 2 2 2003
TC 1700

RESPONSE TO OFFICE COMMUNICATION OF JUNE 12, 2003

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Communication dated June 12, 2003, please consider the following remarks:

REMARKS

In the Office Communication mailed on June 12, 2003, the Examiner stated that the amendment filed on March 24, 2003 (actually filed on March 18, 2003), canceling all claims drawn to the elected invention and presenting only claims drawn to a non-elected invention is non-responsive, citing MPEP §821.03. The Examiner states that the remaining claims are not readable on the elected invention because the claims are no longer drawn to the elected R_1 and R_2 species.

Applicants respectfully traverse this non-responsive objection. First, it is noted that Applicant has not canceled *all* claims drawn to the elected invention and presented only claims drawn to a non-elected invention. The only claim that Applicant canceled was dependent claim 14. The rest of the claims as originally filed, which were drawn to the elected product invention, remain. In addition, as will be explained below, the newly added claims 19 and 20 do in fact read on the elected species.

In a telephone conversation on July 14, 2003 Applicant's undersigned Attorney asked Examiner Woodward to explain the alleged non-responsiveness of the Amendment filed on March 18, 2003. Examiner Woodward pointed out that Applicant elected polyamide repeating units for R_1, but that claim 12 now recites polyamide repeating units *and functional amine units*. Examiner Woodward believes that this is a different species than originally elected. Applicant respectfully submits that the recitation of polyamide repeating units and functional amine units is simply a